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# PHENOMENAL FAUNA



*O. Herford*

BY CAROLYN WELLS  
WITH PICTURES BY  
OLIVER HERFORD

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**A  
PHENOMENAL  
FAUNA**







# A Phenomenal Fauna

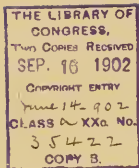
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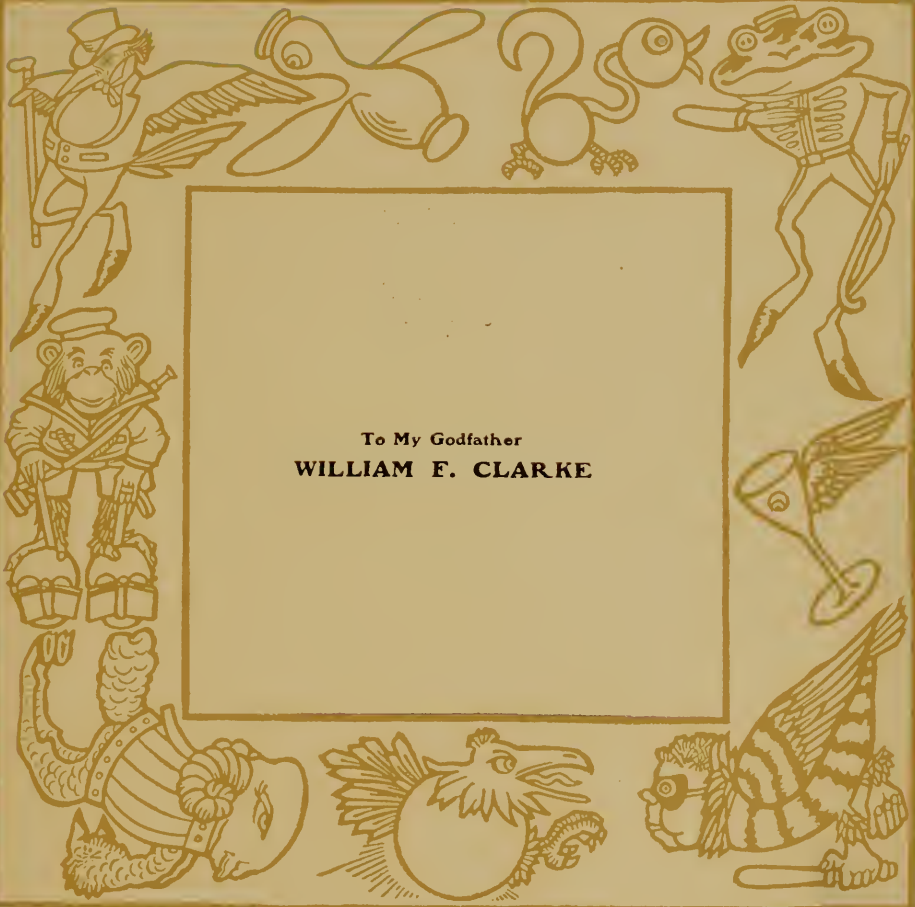
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To My Godfather  
**WILLIAM F. CLARKE**



Books By  
**CAROLYN WELLS**

3

Children of Our Town    The Merry-Go-Round  
Abeniki Caldwell        A Phenomenal Fauna

**THE  
REG'LAR  
LARK**



## THE REG'LAR LARK

**T**HE Reg'lar Lark's a very gay old Bird;  
At sunrise often may his voice be heard  
As jauntily he wends his homeward way,  
And trills a fresh and merry roundelay.  
And some old, wise philosopher has said:  
Rise with a lark, and with a lark to bed.



## THE HUMBUG

**A**LTHOUGH a learned Entomologist  
May doubt if Humbugs really do exist,  
Yet each of us, I'm sure, can truly say  
We've seen a number of them in our day.  
But are they real?—well, a mind judicial  
Perhaps would call them false and artificial.





**THE  
POPPYCOCK**



## THE POPPYCOCK

**T**HE Poppycock's a fowl of English breed,  
And therefore many think him fine indeed.  
Credulous people's ears he would regale,  
And so he crows aloud and spreads his tale.  
But he is stuffed with vain and worthless words;  
Fine feathers do not always make fine birds.

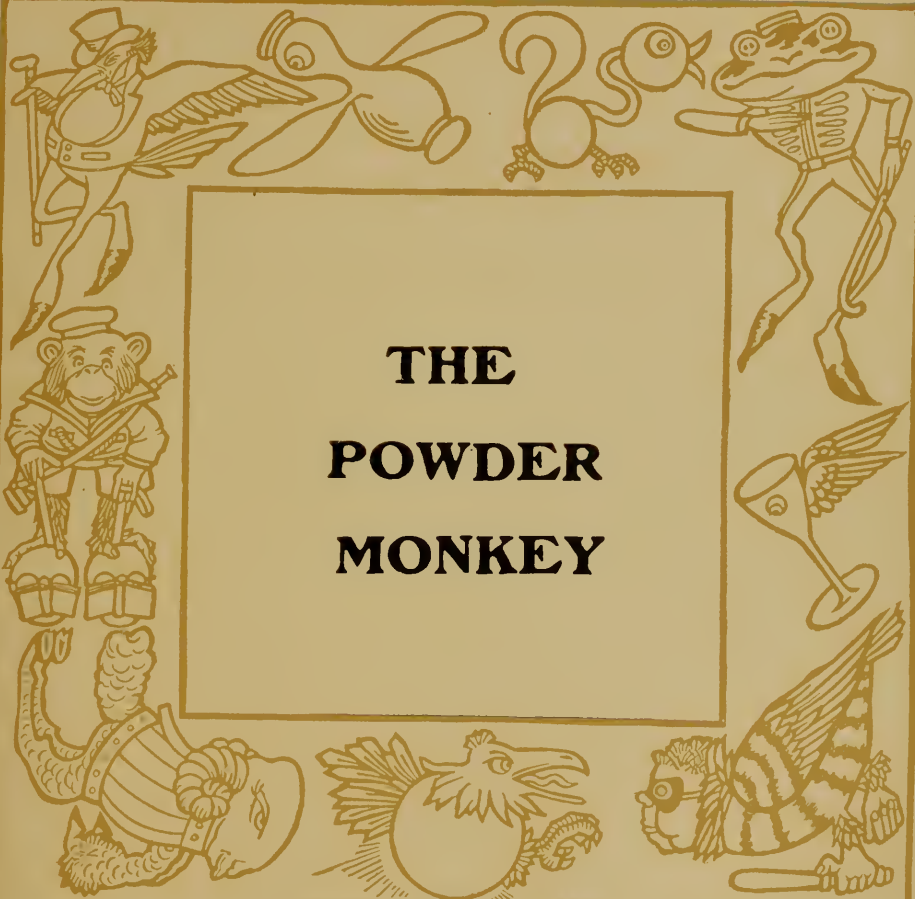


*Chapman*

## THE HAYCOCK

**T**HE Haycock cannot crow; he has no brains,  
No,—not enough to go in when it rains.  
He is not gamy,—fighting's not his forte,  
A Haycock fight is just no sort of sport.  
Down in the meadow all day long he'll bide,  
(That is a little hay-hen by his side.)

**THE  
POWDER  
MONKEY**



## THE POWDER MONKEY

**A** Theory, by scientists defended,  
Declares that we from monkeys are descended.  
This being thus, we therefore clearly see  
The Powder-Monkey heads some pedigree.  
Ah, yes,—from him descend by evolution,  
The Dames and Daughters of the Revolution.



## THE TREE CALF

**T**HE sportive Tree Calf here we see,  
He builds his nest up in a tree;  
To this strange dwelling-place he cleaves  
Because he is so fond of leaves.  
'Twas his ancestral cow, I trow,  
Jumped o'er the moon, so long ago.  
But he is not so great a rover,  
Though at the last he runs to cover.



**THE  
MILITARY  
FROG**



## THE MILITARY FROG

**T**HE Military Frog, as well you know,  
Is the famed one who would a-wooing go.  
And on the soldier's manly breast displayed,  
He wins the heart of every blushing maid.  
But, as a frog, I think he's incomplete,  
He has no good hind legs that we may eat.



## THE FEATHER BOA

**T**HIS animal of which I speak  
Is a most curious sort of freak.  
Though Serpent would its form describe,  
Yet it is of the feathered tribe.  
And 'tis the snake, I do believe,  
That tempted poor old Mother Eve,  
For never woman did exist  
Who could its subtle charm resist.



**THE  
BRICK BAT**

## THE BRICK BAT

**O**FT through the stillness of the summer night  
We see the Brick Bat take his rapid flight.  
And, with unerring aim, descending straight,  
He meets a cat on the back garden gate.  
The little Brick Bat could not fly alone,—  
Oh, no; there is a power behind the thrown.



## THE CAT O' NINE TAILS

**T**HE Cat O' Nine Tails is not very nice,—  
No good at all at catching rats and mice;  
She eats no fish, though living on the sea,  
And no one's friend or pet she seems to be.  
Yet oft she makes it lively for poor Jack,—  
Curls round his legs, and jumps upon his back.



A decorative border of ten anthropomorphic birds surrounds a central text box. Starting from the top left and moving clockwise: a bird in a top hat and boots with a cane; a bird with large wings and a propeller-like tail; a bird with a large question mark on its head; a bird in a military-style uniform with a sword; a bird with wings and a martini glass; a bird with sunglasses and a striped shirt; a bird with a large beak and a ruffled neck; a bird in a striped shirt and a large hat; a bird with a drum and a mallet; and a bird in a sailor's uniform with a hat and a sword.

**THE  
ROUND ROBIN**

## THE ROUND ROBIN

**H**ERE'S the Round Robin, round as any ball ;  
You scarce can see his head or tail at all.  
He's not a carrier-pigeon, though he brings  
Important messages beneath his wings.  
And 'tis this freak of ornithology  
They mean who say, "A little bird told me."



## THE IRON SPIDER

**T**HE Iron Spider is an insect strange,  
He loves to stand upon a red-hot range.  
Unlike his race, he's not an octoped,  
He has but three legs and he has no head.  
Had this but been the kind Miss Muffet saw  
'Twould not have filled the maiden with such awe.



**THE  
BOOKWORM**

## THE BOOKWORM

**T**HE Bookworm's an uninteresting grub,  
Whether he's all alone or in a club.  
Of stupid books which seem to us a bore,  
The Bookworm will devour the very core.  
Did Solomon or somebody affirm  
The early reed-bird catches the bookworm?



## THE BLACK SHEEP

**T**HE Black Sheep is a beast all men should shun—  
He has no fleece yet fleeces every one;  
Though without horns, oft with a horn he's seen;  
Though not a lamb, he gambles on the green.  
Perhaps he's not a sheep, as some suggest,  
But a grim wolf who's in sheep's clothing dressed.



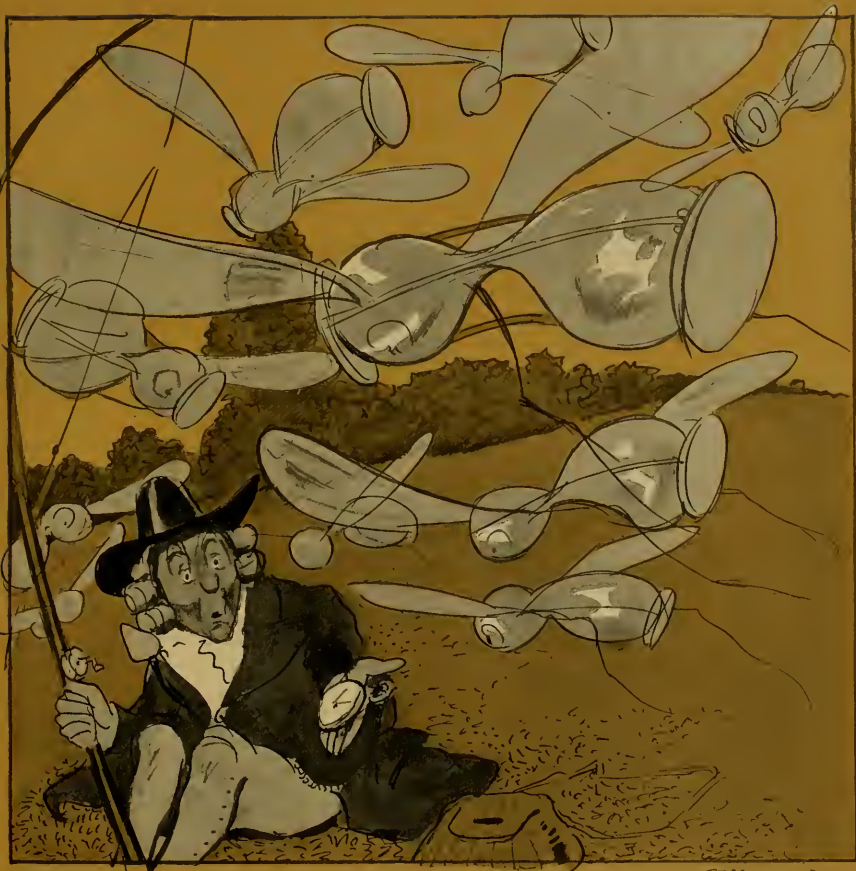


**TIME FLIES**

## TIME FLIES

**T**IME Flies are well-known insects; sages claim  
That Tempus Fugit is their rightful name.

When we're on idleness or pleasure bent,  
They sting our conscience and our fun prevent.  
We hear them winter mornings ere we rise,  
And oft in fly-time we observe Time Flies.



Oldman →

## THE APPLE BEE

**I**N country villages is found  
The Apple Bee with buzzing sound.  
And when our ears it does regale  
We find a sting is in its tale.  
As to its food,—the Apple Bee  
Is fond of doughnuts, cheese and tea.

**THE  
WELSH  
RABBIT**



## THE WELSH RABBIT

**S**EE the Welsh Rabbit—he is bred on cheese ;  
(Or cheese on bread, whichever way you please.)  
Although he's tough, he looks so mild, who'd think  
That a strong man from this small beast would shrink ?  
But close behind him follows the nightmare,  
Beware of them, they are a frightful pair.

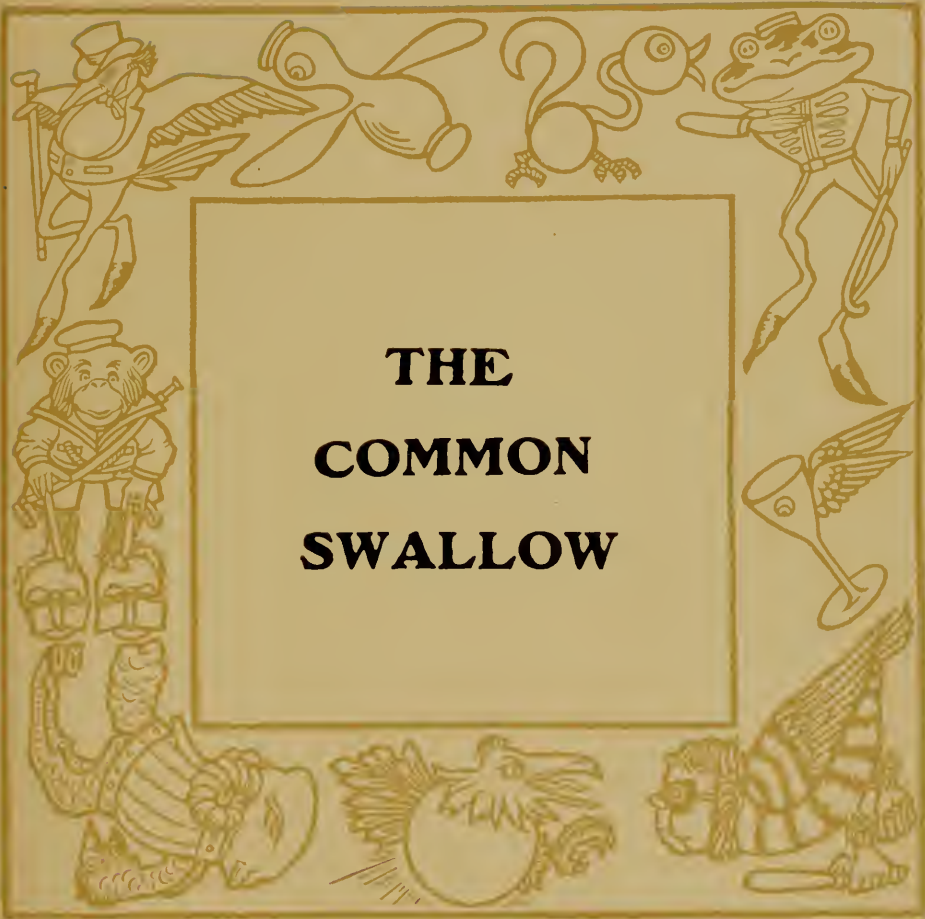


## THE CRICKET BAT

**T**HE Cricket Bat is very often seen  
Flying perchance around the village green;  
But unlike many other bats, its flight  
Is always made by day and not by night.  
There may be one exception though,—and that  
Is when it's aimed at some stray neighboring Cat.



**THE  
COMMON  
SWALLOW**



## THE COMMON SWALLOW

**T**HE Common Swallow is so swift of flight,  
We scarcely see him ere he's out of sight.  
One does not make a summer, it is true,  
But many of them cause a fall or two.  
The Swallow's strong when he is in his prime,  
And yet a man can down him every time.



## THE TOMAHAWK

**T**HE Tomahawk's a fearsome bird, we deem ;  
Though feathered tribes hold him in great esteem ;  
A bird of prey, he whizzes through the air,  
And clutches his pale victim by the hair.  
Gory and grewsome,—he is the mainstay  
Of the historic novel of to-day.



## THE JAIL-BIRD

**T**HIS is a Jail-bird. Isn't it a shame  
To keep him in a cage and try to tame  
His wild desires for freedom? See him droop  
Behind his bars. He wants to fly the coop.  
But to beguile his tedious, lonely hours  
Kind ladies bring him nosegays of bright flowers.

*Thompson*



## THE ROYAL SEAL

**T**HIS noble beast's impressive form is seen  
'Mong the possessions of a king or queen.  
Hard-favored, yet so valuable is he,  
He's ever kept beneath a lock and key.  
And, since his temper can't find vent in speech,  
He stamps and punches everything in reach.





**THE  
FIRE DOGS**

## THE FIRE DOGS

**H**ERE are two Fire Dogs—they are queer, indeed;  
They seem to come of a three-legged breed.  
They have no tails, their bark is on their back;  
They hunt in couples, never in a pack.  
The day's work over, 'tis a pleasant sight  
To find them waiting by the fire at night.



## THE MACKEREL KIT

**T**HIS funny little Mackerel Kit  
Is not like other cats a bit;  
She cannot mew or scratch or purr,  
She has no whiskers and no fur.  
Yet, like all cats, her dearest wish  
Is just to be filled up with fish;  
But (and this isn't so feline)  
She always takes them steeped in brine.

**THE  
GOLF LYNX**



## GOLF LYNX

**T**HIS is the merry Golf Lynx, as you see;  
An amiable beast, and fond of tee.

Indigenous to all the country round,  
His snaky length lies prone along the ground.  
It is the fashion o'er this beast to rave,  
But have a care, lest you become his slave.



## THE TRAVELING CRANE

**T**HE Traveling Crane's a bird, of course,  
Yet he possesses wondrous force.

A bird of burden he must be,

He lifts and pulls so mightily.

And sometimes he will grasp his prey,

And with it rise and soar away.

His plumage is not fine, but then,

He's of the greatest use to men.



A decorative border of various cartoon characters and animals surrounds a central text box. The characters include a pilot, a bird, a squirrel, a frog, a sailor, a bear, a man with a mustache, a bird, a fish, and a bird. The border is drawn in a simple, line-art style.

**THE  
FLYING  
BUTTRESS**

## THE FLYING BUTTRESS

**T**HE Flying Buttress, every day and night,  
Continues in his long, unwearied flight.  
He's not a song-bird, but he's said to be  
Famed for his beauty and his Symmetry.  
He frequents an old abbey or a manse;  
The ostrich eats him if he gets a chance.

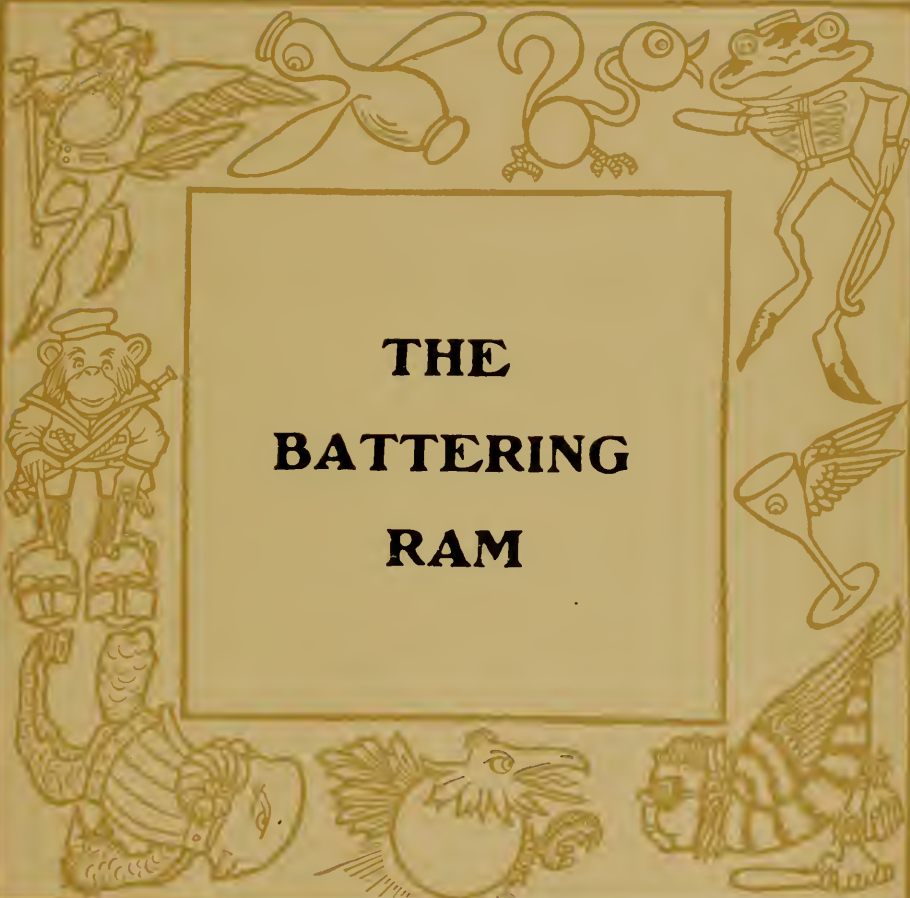


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## THE SEA PUSS

**I**N ocean waters the Sea Puss is found,  
Cat-like, forever chasing round and round.  
She has no claws, but crouching sly and low  
She stealthily puts out her undertow.  
And when an old seadog comes in her way  
I'll warrant you there is the deuce to pay!

**THE  
BATTERING  
RAM**



## THE BATTERING RAM

**T**HIS is the Battering Ram, a fearful beast,  
I think he weighs a thousand tons at least.  
Stronger than any other kind of butter,  
He goes his way calmly, without a flutter.  
Big as an elephant, bigger than a horse,  
He seems the best example of brute force.



## THE SPRING CHICKEN

**H**ERE'S the Spring Chicken. I have heard  
They manufacture this queer bird  
From bits of leather and of strings  
All joined and worked by tiny springs.  
Whenever this fine fowl is broiled,  
Each of his springs should' be well oiled,  
Or he may spring across the room  
And plunge his carver into gloom.





## THE SHUTTLECOCK

**T**HE Shuttlecock's a handsome fowl to see,  
His feathers grow straight upward like a tree.  
He cannot crow, but oftentimes his flight  
Will reach up to a most astounding height.  
He is a gamecock, and, in fighting trim,  
There are not many birds that equal him.



*W. H. Jones*

## THE SAW-BUCK

**T**HE Saw-Buck is a fearsome beast.  
The tramp objects to it, at least.  
When to the housewife he applies  
For coffee or for apple-pies,  
Right speedily he'll turn and leave her  
When he is seized with Saw-Buck Fever.



## THE PIGEON TOAD

**T**HE Pigeon Toad's a funny little beast,  
He's found in every land from West to East.  
The children bring him in, to our amaze,  
And though we try to turn him out, he stays.  
He's never seen with soldiers, nor with fops,  
But with the schoolboys how he jumps and hops.



## THE GOLDEN BUCK

**P**ERHAPS because it's easily approached,  
The Golden Buck's a game that's often poached.  
'Tis sometimes mild, again 'tis strong and hearty,  
It may be found at many a gay stag-party.  
No branching antlers this strange beast adorn,  
But with the Golden Buck we take a horn.



**THE  
BUMBLE  
PUPPY**



## THE BUMBLE PUPPY

**T**HIS is the Bumblepuppy. He's quite tame,  
Although he's said to be a sort of game.  
You scorn him, yet you must—ah, there's the rub—  
Accept him at your table or your club.  
He has his points, yet he's a pest, indeed;  
I would we could exterminate the breed.



*O. Harper*

## THE WATCH DOG

**T**HIS useful animal we keep  
To guard our treasure while we sleep.  
A pointer, not a setter, yet  
He's of no use unless he's set.  
Gaze on his open, honest face,—  
There's no deception in his case.  
He is attached to us, 'tis plain,  
Though often by a slender chain.



**THE  
GOLD EAGLE**

## THE GOLD EAGLE

**H**ERE'S the Gold Eagle. Very rare.  
They say

This bird is worth ten dollars any day.

He has no wings, apparently, yet I

Or you, or anyone can make him fly.

He's very powerful—held in great esteem;

And money talks, so let the eagle scream.



## THE BUGBEAR

**O**F all the fearsome beasts beneath the sun  
The Bugbear is the most appalling one.  
At night he comes and hovers o'er our bed,  
Filling us with a nameless fear and dread.  
He is not half so terrible by day—  
Sometimes he shrinks and dwindles quite away.



A decorative border of various cartoonish figures and animals surrounds a central text box. The figures include a man with a cane, a bird, a squirrel, a frog, a monkey, a man with a hat, a winged glass, a fish, and a bird-like creature.

**THE  
IRISH BULL**

## THE IRISH BULL

**A**MONG the stock jokes it is oft averred  
The Irish Bull is best of all the heard.  
He has no points, he has no head or tail,  
But many a jovial party he'll regale.  
And all his hearers will with laughter choke,  
Except his brother John, who sees no joke.



## THE JAY

'**T**IS very strange, and yet, upon my word,  
This silly fellow thinks he is a bird!

He lives on hayseed,—everywhere he's found,  
But in the country he does most abound.

And at the approach of winter, (more's the pity),  
A flock of jays will migrate to the city.



**FOREBEARS**

## FOREBEARS

**M**ISLED by certain signs of form and shape,  
Some think we are descended from the ape.  
But recent science now the truth declares  
The human race descended from Forebears.  
And since we're so inclined to war, I'll wager  
One of our Forebears was the Ursa Major.



## THE HIGH HORSE

**T**HE High Horse often takes a foremost place  
Among the winners of the human race.  
They say one needs both brawn and brain to ride him,  
And even then 'tis very hard to guide him.  
His jockeys gaily prance and boldly scoff,  
But soon or late they're sure to tumble off.













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A PHENOMENAL TAUNA



*O. Harford*

BY CAROLYN WELLS

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY

OLIVER HARFORD

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